

We see by figures in the New York Times that the earnings of sixteen North-eastern railroads for 1861, are \$20,543,707; for 1860 they were but \$26,242,568, making a gain of thirteen per cent. for this year.

During a certain period of 1861, there were 33,214,294 bushels of grain delivered at Chicago; during a corresponding period of 1860 the amount was 22,866,088; and in 1859, 9,735,582 bushels, a gain this year over last of 50 per cent., nearly.

During a certain period of 1861, there were 31,304,049 bushels of grain delivered at tidewater through the Erie canal; and during a corresponding period of 1860, only 22,632,835 bushels; and during a corresponding period of 1859, only 5,234,358; making a gain of 40 per cent. nearly for 1861 over 1859.

The exports of breadstuffs to England and the Continent have been equivalent to 54,682,639 bushels for 1861; and during the year of 1860, 11,191,799 bushels; and for 1859, 1,644,662 bushels, a gain of exports of breadstuffs for 1861 of nearly 500 per cent. over that of 1860.

We find that the imports of New York alone, exclusive of specie, since the first of July, 1861, were only \$96,847,208; and during 1860, for a corresponding period, they were \$175,292,275; a falling off of nearly 100 per cent.

The exports of New York for the same period, exclusive of specie, have been in 1861, \$91,246,351, and in 1860 were \$63,843,917 in value, an increase of exports for 1861 over 1860 of more than 40 per cent.

We also find that the receipts of gold from Europe and California since January 1st, 1861, have been \$66,739,000, and the exports for the same period only \$3,260,000; leaving us a balance of \$63,479,000 for the first eight months of the year.

Hence we see that for 1861, over 1860, sixteen of our Northern railroads have gained in earnings 13 per cent.; that there is a gain of 50 per cent. in the amount of grain delivered at Chicago during a corresponding period of the two years; that there is a gain of 40 per cent. in the amount of grain delivered at tide water by the Erie canal during corresponding periods of the two years; that there will be a gain of nearly 500 per cent. in the export of breadstuffs to England and the Continent for 1861 over 1860; that the gross export of New York, exclusive of specie, for corresponding periods give 40 per cent. in favor of 1861; and the excess of the importation of gold over the exportation, leaves us a balance of \$63,479,000 for the first eight months of the year.

In 1860, the nation was at peace with itself, and with all the world. In 1861, it is agitated by a great civil war. Why these indices of prosperity? It may be said they are the surplus result of the prosperity of last year making their appearance in the markets of the world. This war, in its immediate effects upon production and trade, are felt more particularly in the South than in the North. The agricultural products of the North will not be perceptibly diminished by the war, for the supply of labor will be sufficient both for the work of the war and that of the farm. The quantity of the manufactured products of the East will not be so great in the general directions of trade, but in the manufacturing of supplies for the army, they will find a large use for their manufacturing power.

Precedents for the Mason and Slidell Capture.

We have already intimated our hope that Great Britain will claim Mason, Slidell and their Secretaries on the ground of the illegality of their capture. We could very well afford even to surrender them for the sake of the precedent and principle thus established. If Great Britain is ready for a broad acceptance of the principle that free ships make free goods, it does not become us to object. But there must be no juggle in the premises, but the clear and simple recognition of a rule of action henceforth obligatory on both parties—Nothing is more certain than that Great Britain has often acted to our prejudice on the opposite principle to that which she must assert in demanding the liberation of Mason and Slidell. To instance but a single case—that of Henry Laurens is completely in point. Mr. Laurens was a leading rebel against the sovereignty of Great Britain, as Mason and Slidell are rebels against that of the United States. He was a leader in our father's revolution, as they are in that of Jeff. Davis. He was sent to Holland to solicit her aid in our struggle, as they were dispatched by Jeff. to France and England. He was on board a neutral (Dutch) ship, as they were on board a neutral (British) vessel. He was captured and taken out of his vessel by a British cruiser, precisely as Mason and Slidell were from theirs by Com. Wilkes. He was carried to England, as they have been brought to the United States. He was imprisoned in the Tower of London, just as they have been in Fort Warren. And we have no recollection that the Dutch ever complained of his capture as unwarranted; if they did, it is certain they were left to take it out in complaining. Now if Great Britain is ready to say that her capture and imprisonment of Laurens was all wrong, and to establish a rule which shall preclude henceforth all captures of belligerents on board neutral ships, it may be that our Government will decide that we have more to gain by giving them up than by retaining them. We do not anticipate its action; but we see clearly that the capture of the diplomatic traitors is of great advantage to us, whether we retain or surrender them. And we once more assure our timorous friends that Great Britain not only has no decent pretext for fastening a quarrel upon us, but that President Lincoln will take good care that she shall not get one, at least till we have settled our little account with Jeff. and Company.—New York Tribune.

A similar proceeding on the part of an English vessel of war will probably come within the recollection of some of our readers. We refer to the boarding of the ship Hercules, of Salem, Mass., Captain Edward West, in a Sardinian port, some fifty years ago, and forcibly taking from on board Lucien Bonaparte, then on his way to the United States. The Hercules put into port on account of the sickness of Lucien Bonaparte and at his urgent request. An English man-of-war was in port, got wind of the passenger on board, and sent a boat-squad with an armed crew who took Lucien away by force, carried him on board the man-of-war, and he was taken a prisoner to England.—N. Y. Advertiser.

Clippings from the Scientific American.

THE WAY BANK NOTE PLATES ARE HARDENED.—To harden an engraved steel plate, and to prevent it from warping or in the process a peculiar method must be adopted. The mode practiced by our bank note companies is to bury the plates in animal charcoal in a clay crucible and expose them to red heat for about two and a half hours, and then cool them by pressing them into cold lead. By this process all of the most delicate lines of the engraving are preserved in the most perfect manner, without the slightest distortion or damage.

Two or three instances of the perforation of lead by insects have recently been brought under the notice of French naturalists. In one case which happened in the Crimea during the Russian war, the balls in several packets of cartridges had been rendered entirely useless.

An ingenious soldier of the Fifteenth Ohio Regiment, now on duty in Kentucky, has devised a method of warming tents, which is described as follows: "In the centre of the tent a hole is dug in the ground about two feet square and two feet deep. From the bottom of this hole a small trench leads to the surface of the ground outside the tent, to admit the cold air. From the top another covered trench leads to the opposite side of the tent to conduct the smoke out. The hole is arched over, very much like the top of a circular cistern wall, and an open space of perhaps a foot in diameter is left at the top for putting in the fuel. Cover this up (with an old stove plate, a bit of sheet iron, smooth stone or the like) and you have the floor of your tent converted into the top of a furnace. No room is taken up by the heating apparatus; the heat is greatest where it should be, next the feet; the tent is perfectly free from smoke, and with any sort of fuel that is not absolutely soaked with water, you can raise the temperature just as high as may be desired."

The Chinese were the first who constructed cannon with iron bands shrunk upon them for the purpose of strengthening them at the breech. The Chinese built vessels with water-tight bulkheads, hundreds of years ago. This has been considered by most persons quite a modern invention.

The Spanish Armada.

The "Invincible Armada" which King Philip of Spain, sent in 1588, for the conquest of England, and for restoring to the Catholic faith "a great many contrite souls that were oppressed by the treaties," consisted of 65 large ships; 19 tenders, 13 small frigates and 8 galleys—in all 130 vessels with a tonnage of 75,000 tons. This fleet carried 2,441 guns, of which 1497 were bronze 48 pounders, 124,000 round shot and 5,000 cwt. of powder. The ships were manned by 8,000 sailors and carried 20,000 soldiers, and 180 priests and monks. It also carried mules and carts, and provisions for six months.

The English Admiral, Howard, prepared fire-ships, and sent eight of them into the Spanish Armada, causing confusion and panic. They cut their cables, ran into each other, and put to sea; when the English Admirals, Howard and Drake, fell upon them and kept up a running fire for several days. The Spaniards lost 15 large vessels and 5000 men in the fight—many more vessels were taken on the coasts of Ireland and Scotland, where they fled, and over 5,000 men were drowned, killed and taken prisoners. Only 60 vessels of the "Invincible Armada" returned to Spain, while the English lost but one ship.

The Great American Naval Expedition of 1861, to suppress rebellion and subjugate traitors, was far more imposing and potential, considering the steamships, than was the Spanish Armada, and its success was as resistless and triumphant, as the Armada of Spain was feeble and disastrous.

The Army of the Potomac to Advance.

There are many indications of an immediate march to Bull Run.

The Emperor said: "If you have got to take Vienna, go straight to Vienna and take it." By this he perhaps meant that too much military strength is expended in dodging a foe, in searching for strategic approaches, and trying to conquer without fighting, and that if a bad job is to be done, a General must make up his mind to fire and blood, and not win at the deathful sacrifices of the conflict. It appears very certain that the rebels conclude to maintain their position of menace and defence within twenty-five miles of the Capital. The Richmond Enquirer boasts to this effect, and defies us to force them to do otherwise. They are really settling down into winter quarters.

General McClellan appreciates the grave nature of the job to be done; but he knows that it must be done, and that the patient North at length calls on him to do it. He sees that the conquest of the enemy's fronting him must precede the fate of secession. The conquest involves a brave, straightforward old fashioned attack.

The North need not fear the result. This time we are going to whip them.

We are going to fight and conquer them, at or near the line from which they have once driven us back. There will be no Bull Run retreats or panics, because this time the battle will be preceded by no July disorganization, and fought by no Centreville mob. I wrote you before the 21st of July that I feared the result of that day's contest. Let me now say that those most watchful of this campaign, and therefore most slow to trust, have at last arrived at confidence in McClellan and admiration for his army.

As indicated, this great review is without doubt preliminary to a general striking of tents. General McClellan has told the Paymaster General that he must get through with the bi-monthly payment, as the regiments are to leave the neighborhood. Extraordinary activity prevails in the transportation of ammunition and stores. There are other causes for expecting an immediate movement, some of which I cannot state, and others of which must be seen by experienced eyes to be understood.—Corr. New York World.

The Union.

G. W. KINGSBURY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

JUNCTION, KANSAS, THURSDAY, DEC. 5th, 1861.



The word compromise is now only uttered by traitors. So long as rebels have arms in their hands there is nothing to compromise. It is vain to tell at the pumps while men are kept on board boring holes in the bottom of the ship.—JOSEPH HOLZ.

THE PEACE PARTY.

The Peace Party is essentially a sectional party. It is found only in the North, and numbers in its ranks only men who are saved from open treason by cowardice. It would be amusing, if it were not infamous, to hear these men talk. Their howls for "Peace" are directed only to the Government, or to the men who are standing up for the defence of the Union and the institutions left us by our fathers, and the property acquired by the joint treasure of the nation. To the traitors and thieves, whose bayonets are directed at the life of the Government and the Union, and who are rioting on the property stolen from the loyal citizens, they make no appeals—they speak of them in the most gingerly manner, as "our own countrymen," "our dear brethren," "our friends," &c. These discreet traitors ignore the fact that this war was not commenced by the Government, or by loyal men; they close their eyes to the fact that the Government is standing only upon the defensive—defending loyal citizens, and the institutions, rights, and property confided to its keeping by the people; and that it has no choice but to continue to defend them, if need be, to the last drop of blood and the last dollar of treasure it can command. If the Government should do otherwise, if it should abandon, or prepare to abandon, one single loyal citizen, or one single inch of the territory of the Union, or one single dollar of the property which the rebels have seized, it would itself be recreant and traitorous, and its administrators would deserve the halter as richly as any traitors now in arms for its overthrow. It is not for the administrators of the Government, or for loyal men, to make peace, to talk of it, or even to think of it. Their duty is plain, simple, unmistakable. It is to stand and defend whilst a single traitor assails. To defend the national life, to vindicate the majesty of the law. If peace is desired by any one, let him address his appeals to the disturbers of the peace—to those who commenced the war, and who are still waging it. To them, such appeals would be sensible and proper. They can make peace whenever they desire, by simply laying down their arms, and yielding up their ring leaders to the punishment which their crimes merit: the John Brown dungeon and the John Brown halter. If they will not do so freely and of their own accord, the Government has but one course to pursue, and that is to compel them to do it, even if in so doing it should have to slaughter the last rebel of them, including their cowardly Northern allies, now clamoring for peace, and whose prayers are for the humiliation and overthrow of the American Government, and the permanent dishonoring of our Flag. At any cost of treasure and blood this rebellion must be put down, and its instigators punished. This is the sentiment of every patriotic American. He is but a mean and miserable traitor who thinks or talks otherwise.

The Chicago Tribune hopes that Treasury Notes will take the place of ordinary bank bill, and anticipates that the best results will follow from their general circulation.

The following remarkable confession taken from the New Orleans Crescent, and which we find in the Memphis Appeal of the 16th, is to the point:

"Unfortunately the abilities and resources of the Hessian government of Lincoln have been underrated. It is now nearly six months since a vessel entered the port of New Orleans from a distant country. The same remark will apply to Mobile and other ports of the Gulf. Where a vessel with a cargo of merchandise has passed Lincoln's blockade, twenty have passed the blockade of the war of 1812."

GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT.

This venerable patriot took his departure, on the 10th ult., from New York to Europe. He will first proceed to Paris, thence to Rome, and then, if his health and strength permit, will visit other points in Continental Europe. If his life is spared, he will return to this country in the spring.

THE WORLD MOVES.

We, that is the "boys," would like to know by what ingenuity of logic the Frontier construes any one of the acts of the Administration into a "conciliatory" policy, as understood by the sympathizers with treason throughout the North—submission to the traitors. The sensation item which they produced to sustain the assertion that the "movements of the Administration begin to assume the appearance of conciliation" is too flimsy to satisfy us of their good intentions in thus attempting to gull their readers. The "conciliatory" course of the Administration always has been satisfactory, and is growing more so every day, to every whole-souled patriot, as evidenced by the vigorous and unmistakable preparations it is making to use the only arbiters suited to the occasion—the sword. This imaginative "conciliatory policy," the Frontier would have us believe, is having a healthy influence in North Carolina. So has an officer of justice a healthy influence among thieves. It is a mystery to us why the Frontier could not have given its readers to understand that the landing of Union troops on the soil of that State had a "healthy" influence. We do not say that there is no Union men in North Carolina and other parts of the South, but we would like to have credit given to whom it is due. A Union army always has a "healthy" influence, hence we may expect to hear of a "healthy" influence existing in that hell-hole of iniquity, South Carolina. The healthiest influence we have yet observed is the manner in which the Administration is taking hold of the "root of evil," and the response which it meets from every patriotic heart. The following extract shows how the thing is going:

"It moves!" The doctrines of Fremont's noble proclamation are fast producing fruit. In a recent speech to his regiment, at Washington, the Honorable John Cochrane, a New York Democrat, declared—"shall we not seize the cotton at Beaufort, the munitions of war? And if you would seize their property, open their ports and even destroy their lives, I ask you whether you would not use their slaves—whether you would not arm their slaves, and carry them in battalions against their masters?" And this, and much more like it, was endorsed fully and to the letter by Secretary Cameron. Even the Louisville Democrat, while condemning Cochrane's speech, says—"Let the negro be sent to his master, it may be said. When there is any constitutional law making that the duty of the military, it may be done; but if Jeff. Davis' horse should stray away into McClellan's camp, we question if law or courtesy would require the latter to send him back. The negro will come under the same rule. An enemy must take care of his own property; he can hardly expect it to be sent back to him by a person he stands ready to shoot."—The world does move.

Notwithstanding we have elsewhere intimated our veneration for gray hairs, we must for the moment claim the privilege of disregarding such conventional rules, and allude to a portion of the gratuitous advice which the editor of the Frontier was so thoughtful as to give us, as he observed us, as he supposed, sweeping on to destruction. We have yet to meet the man, who makes any pretensions to sanity whatever, that holds that Charleston has ever been any thing else than a nuisance, a plague spot, an eye sore to the country, a den of rottenness and corruption, in short a place where only the fiends of Hell have been equalled. Yet the Frontier rebukes us for having in our innocence suggested a legal method of getting rid of this nuisance, and building, or attempting to build, a city in that region upon which honest and loyal men could rely, and insinuates that such doctrine might do among the Kiowas or Camanches. We have always been taught to regard it as an evidence of civilization when a people kept their neighborhood purged of nuisances. For this reason we would be pleased to have our neighbor come up, at least, to the Kiowa standard, and unite in the prayer that this unparalleled nuisance may be forever wiped out.

There are other portions of this "advice" that we would like to notice, but through a fear of intruding our peculiar notions upon this paper too strongly to meet its editor's approbation, dare not.

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KANSAS AND NEBRASKA.

We are indebted to the Hon. Mark W. Delahay, Surveyor General of Kansas and Nebraska, for a circular containing a synopsis of his late report to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and recommending that Congress make large appropriations for extending the surveys of Public Lands in his district. The amount asked for extending the surveys in Kansas is \$74,694, and for Nebraska, \$75,292.—These appropriations are based upon the large demands which will probably be made upon these lands at the conclusion of the present war, for the satisfaction of warrants, which, it is almost certain, will be issued to the loyal soldiers now in Government service. Mr. Delahay estimates the number of men now in service at 500,000. The issuance of a one hundred and sixty acre warrant to each will make a demand for some 80,000,000 acres. Most of these warrants will doubtless seek a location in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Nevada. The amount of surveyed land in Kansas and Nebraska undisposed of is only about 18,000,000 acres, of which amount some 3,000,000 acres are otherwise disposed of. There are still over 30,000,000 acres of unsurveyed lands in Kansas alone, and a still larger amount in Nebraska. Mr. Delahay thinks all these lands should be surveyed as speedily as practicable.

If warrants are to be granted to all the soldiers in the service, as we think should be done, then these lands ought to be surveyed, and speedily. There are no public lands elsewhere where these warrants can be located, that our soldiers would be likely to select. The West is the place for the boys, and we hope many of them will make themselves homes out here when the war is over.

Gen. Halleck's Policy of Campaign.

The following we take from the St. Louis correspondence of the Cincinnati Enquirer:

A large force is at work on the gun-boats and mortar flats, and all will be sent forward to Cairo within the present week. The engagement of steamers for transportation of troops and supplies, &c., will not be at all difficult, for the tonnage laid up at this port and now idle, is immense and ample to carry 100,000 men. General Halleck has not yet intimated his policy, but as "straws show which way the wind blows," so do preparations and movements indicate the future advance of our army. Co-operating with the forces in Kentucky, Gen. Halleck will move on to Tennessee overland and down the Mississippi river, and the opinion is now entertained that by the 1st of March the Union forces will have complete possession of that State, and possibly be on their onward march farther South.

The railroads in this State are to be held by Government troops, so that other parts of the State will be of but little benefit to the rebels. Jefferson City is now strongly fortified, and impregnable to any force that can be brought against it.

In regard to the proposed movement, the Chicago Tribune says:

A blow in Tennessee, threatening New Orleans and Mobile, will effectually dispose of Price and his guerrillas; and for the rest, they may be turned over to the tender mercies of Jim Lane and his Kansas Brigade. The latter, increased to ten thousand, and authorized to make war as if they were in earnest, would, under their leader, purge the State of its rebel element or make a demand for grave-diggers that half a dozen States could not supply.

Weston, Missouri, in Possession of Rebels.

Considerable excitement was created here on Thursday by the return of the coaches bound for Weston with eastern passengers. When they reached Weston the town was in possession of the rebels, headed it is said by St. Gordon. Captains Rabb and Moonlight, artilleryists in Lane's Brigade, and Captain Harrison of Colonel Davis' regiment, together with Lieutenant White, also of the Brigade, were arrested. Captain Harrison succeeded in effecting his escape, but the other officers were taken off by the rebels. The feeling, high as it ran on Thursday, was greatly increased on Friday night by the return of the Weston coaches with passengers but no baggage, no mail, no express matter. The rebel force yesterday numbered only about thirty men, under Gordon.

This brings the fight very near our own door once more—only ten miles off. We are cut off from all kinds of communication with the loyal States. But we are not at all apprehensive of danger. Colonel Smith is an idiotic dotard of cowardly proclivities, but General Hunter is ready and willing to take care of Platte county, and will have that question settled very soon.—Leavenworth Conservative.

SIGNIFICANT.—The five hundred marines who passed through this city, a few days since, were from Alexandria, Va., where they have been practicing gunnery for the last three months. They are at Cairo by this time; and this fact taken in connection with the large amount of ordnance and ordnance stores just landed at Cairo, and the retrograde movement made by Hunter's army, looks very much like doing something—may a movement down the Mississippi!—Ohio State Journal.

A vessel arrived at Cairo one day last week, with the following ordnance and ordnance stores for the gun boats, viz: Thirteen 68 pounders, eighteen 64 pounders all rifled pieces, and a large quantity of ammunition; 12,000 solid shot; 400 shell; 400 grape and canister.

The Conspiracy a Quarter of a Century Ago.

Ex-Governor Francis Thomas of Maryland, in a Union speech at Baltimore, a few days ago, testified that twenty-five years ago, he was present at a caucus of Southern members of Congress, to break up the Government unless satisfactory pledges were given by the North on the subject of slavery.

The statement of Gov. Thomas is, that an effort was made by Governor Pickens, and others in sympathy with him, to prevent Southern members of Congress taking their seats; and this with the evident purpose of disorganizing and overthrowing the government. A Southern caucus assembled one day in a room in the capitol. When entering the House of Representative Governor Thomas says he was surprised to observe that the members from the slaveholding States were absent. Whilst reflecting on this strange occurrence, he was asked why he was not in attendance on the Southern caucus sitting in the room of the Committee of Claims. He replied that he had received no invitation. He went to the room, and on entering found the following resolution under consideration, and Hon. F. W. Pickens, of South Carolina, urging it upon the approval of the meeting:

"Resolved, That no member of Congress representing a Southern constituency shall again take his seat until a resolution is passed satisfactory to the South on the subject of slavery."

Governor Thomas continues:

"I said to Mr. Pickens, 'What next do you propose we shall do? Are we to tell the people that Republicanism is a failure? If you are for that, I am not. I came here to sustain and uphold American institutions; to defend the rights of the North as well as the South; to secure harmony and good fellowship between all sections of our common country.' They dared not to answer these questions. The Southern temper had not been gotten up. As my questions had not been answered, I moved an adjournment of the caucus sine die. Mr. Craig, of Virginia, seconded the motion, and the company was broken up. We returned to the House, and Mr. Ingersoll, of Pennsylvania, a glorious patriot then as now, introduced a resolution which temporarily calmed the excitement."

What England Must Look To.

We court no war with Great Britain—neither will we avoid it by national dishonor. But this we do know, that she is clothed and fed by the United States; that nearly two-fifths of her exports have been to the United States; that she is not a continent like the United States, providing everything within itself, but a little workshop within very narrow limits, dependent for her very existence on her supplying the markets of the world with her manufactures. As a consequence of a war with us, she would lose two-fifths of her exports—she would lose our breadstuffs, the provisions to feed her, and our cotton, as heretofore, to clothe her. She would lose the \$23,000,000 per annum of revenue which she derives mainly from our tobacco. In all the ramifications of her business, fully one-third of the people, including women and children, would be thrown out of employment. Her revenue would be reduced one-half—her own expenditures would be quadrupled, and she would be unable to pay \$180,000,000 per annum as the interest of the public debt, and at the same time support her government and war expenditures. She would encounter revolution from her starving millions, and her existing government would be swept into oblivion.—Phil. Press.

MEXICAN AFFAIRS.

Private but trustworthy advices from Europe, with relation to Mexican affairs, have been received. Spain and the Spanish party in Mexico had resolved to impose a king upon that country at the point of the bayonet. Of three princes Montpensier was the favorite. Whether England and France have fully acceded to this is doubtful. It is not believed that our government has taken any steps to counteract these schemes against the integrity of the power in whose welfare we are most nearly interested, or to prevent Spain from acquiring a country which is surely destined to be ours. If the latest reports from Mexico be correct, Mr. Corwin has been instructed to wound her pride, without being enabled to give her substantial help or even sympathy. Tribune.

More Naval Preparations.

The Government continues its active naval preparations. Agents are negotiating in this and other seaport cities for the few steamers that remain unpurchased, and that can, by any art of the shipwright, be made strong enough for the coasting service.—First-class ships into port are also examined with a view to their fitness for the transport business. Nearly thirty steamers and sailing vessels, purchased within the last two months, are now receiving new beams and braces, and other improvements, at the East river shipyards. The appearance of several of the steamers suggests the repetition of calamities like those that befel several members of the Port Royal fleet; but all that naval architecture can do will be done to strengthen them. These jobs make the ship yards about the busiest places in the city.—N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

Since the first of last January our exports have exceeded our imports by \$8,000,000.